Railway Wheel Manufacturing Factory at Chhapra

†2157. SHRI PYARELAL KHANDELWAL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether an announcement was made to set up Railway wheel manufacturing factory in Chhapra, Bihar;

(b) the progress of this factory;

(c) by when it would be completed; and

(d) whether it is a fact that thousands of tonnes of scrap of Railway Department has to be brought to this factory which is under construction?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) Yes, Sir. An announcement to set up a wheel-manufacturing factory in Chhapra, Bihar was made in the Railway Budget 2004-05.

(b) The project has been sanctioned. Procedure for acquisition of required land has started. Consultancy contract for detailed design has been awarded.

(c) It is planned to be completed by January 2010.

(d) After the factory achieves a production level of 50000 wheels per annum, 32000 tonnes of railway scrap (approx.) will have to be transported to this factory per year.

Survey of Haldibari-Mekhliganj rail line

2158. SHRI TARINI KANTA ROY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether survey work has started on the new line project from Haldibari to Mekhliganj in West Bengal;

(b) if so, by when the survey would be completed; and

(c) whether Changrabandha has been included in the project?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.